History of S.C.I.T.S.

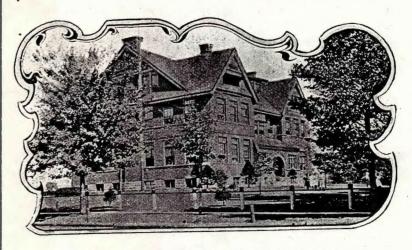
And

the Honor Roll

a few pages from

"The Collegiate"

Dec 1917



## A SHORT HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

As a diversion from the omnipresent war article, it is interesting to go back into the history of our own collegiate. The history of Sarnia's schools dates from the year 1838 when Mr. Duncan McNaughton opened the first educational institute in the city, in the upper flat of a warehouse on the riverfront behind the present Durand Block. From this time on, interest in education grew and gradually, as the years passed and the town increased in size, additional accommodation for the young student was provided.

It was not, however, until 1850 that the desire for more advanced training resulted in the formation of a grammar school. A little to the north of a small red brick school, which stood on the present site of St. Andrew's Arena, a little frame house was erected and here the first Grammar School opened under the Head Mastership of Mr. J. Walker. This Grammar School, as it was called until an Act of Parliament in 1871 changed the name to High School, was an important institution in its day, and Sarnia was then, as now, well known for its educational facilities. Many, who have since been very successful in various walks of life, received their education from Mr. J. Walker, or perhaps we might be more correct in saying from Mr. Walker's cane—for in those days the cane was considered as essential as the Latin Grammar to the progress in Scholarship.

On the 20th of July, 1855, an event of some importance in the history of Sarnia schools took place. On this date the Board of the Public School, and the Board of the Grammar School held a joint meeting. There were present a number of citizens, now almost forgotten, but then, prominent men in the county. At this time, it was decided to unite the two schools under their respective Boards with the title for the school, "The United Grammar and Common School of Sarnia." A committee was appointed to choose a site and to request the co-operation of the County Council. The committee did not meet with success in their appeal to the council, but they chose a site, and in 1859 a lot was purchased and a four room building erected where the General Hospital now stands. This building was opened in 1860 with Mr. John Brebner in charge of the Common School and Mr. W. B. Evans, Headmaster of the one room devoted to the Grammar School.

Mr. Evans had charge of the Grammar School for but a short time when he was succeeded by Mr. Checkley and that gentleman was succeeded in 1866 by Mr. Sinclair who occupied the principalship for twenty years. In 1875 one of the Collegiate's best teachers joined the staff, in the person of Miss Pottinger who remained until the year 1902.

Our honored Latin Master, Mr. D. M. Grant, joined the staff in 1886 and in 1888 became principal, which office he held until 1902 when he was succeeded by Mr. Crassweller. Today, the freshmen should not be surprised when Mr. Grant quotes pages of the texts to them as he has seen texts come and go for

the past thirty-one years.

In 1800 the Grammar School or High School, as it was now called, was in a similar position to the Collegiate of today—it could not accommodate the students. Therefore property was purchased on the London Road and the present building started. In its day, it was considered the finest high school in Ontario and cost the town of Sarnia forty thousand dollars. It was opened January first, 1802 with the following staff: -Mr. D. M. Grant, principal; Mr. Corbett, Mr. Corkill, Mr. Campbell and Miss Pottinger. Of this original staff, Mr. Grant alone remains. In 1902 several changes took place. Miss Pottinger retired from the staff. Mr. Grant gave up the principalship and was succeeded by Mr. Crassweller who remained until the close of 1912. Next to Mr. Grant, Mr. Dent has been a member of the staff for the longest period as he became Science Master in 1904. Our present worthy principal, Mr. A. M. Overholt, came in 1913 and under his guidance rapid strides forward have been taken by the school in every department of its work.

Sarnia Collegiate has a good representation in the educational faculties of this country. Hon J. R. Brown, Minister of Education, for Alberta, is an Old Boy, as are also Prof. Alex. Thompson, of McGill University, Prof. William McDonald, late of McMaster, now attached to the American Government at Washington in an important capacity, Mr. C. A. Barnes, late inspector of schools for East Lambton, Mr. Jas. Brebner, registrar of the University of Toronto. Two very prominent lawyers, who received their education here, are Judge Brown of British Columbia and Justice Vanstone, of New York who is also an editor of a leading financial journal of the American metropolis.

We might enumerate many more names of men who have achieved success in our own city, as the majority of our prominent business and professional men having received their training here. The success of the S. C. I. Old Boys both here and elsewhere should set a high standard for the pupils of today. With the advantages of modern methods of education, which our predecessors did not have, we hope to see an even greater percentage of S. C. I. students in the important positions hereafter than we

have seen in the past.

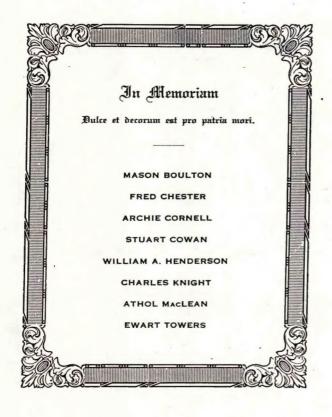
It can hardly be said that there ever was a time when the school accommodation for Sarnia kept pace with the school population, and this lack of accommodation is acute at present at the Collegiate Institute. Now that the congestion in the Public Schools has been relieved by the erection of the excellent new public school (which, by the way, has never been named by the Board of Education), it is high time that steps were taken for the erection of a new wing to the Collegiate to contain a decent gymnasium and showers, proper Science rooms, a Domestic Science room, and at least three or four class rooms.

[The "Collegiate" staff is much indebted to Mr. R. E. Le Sueur and Mr. D. M. Grant, who furnished the material for this

article.]

## Bill Paterson (Meditating):

"I wish I was a little rock
A-sittin' on a hill,
A-doin' nothin' all day long,
But just a-sittin' still.
I wouldn't eat, I wouldn't drink,
I wouldn't even wash,
I'd sit and sit a thousand years,
I'd rest myself by gosh!"





Adams, Roy . Bartlett, Preston Battley, Sinclair Beatty, Harold Bentley, Albert, Capt. Bentley, Dr., Lieut.-Col. Boulton, Mason (Killed in action) Beresford, Harry, Lieut. (Wounded) Broughton, E. Brown, Gordon Cameron, Alex. Carr, Beacher Cathcart, Dr. Selby Cathcart, Standish Campbell, Allan Campbell, Harry Cowan, Hector Cowan, Stuart, Lieut. (Killed in action) Cook, B. Leslie, Ft. Lieut. (Wounded) Cole, Gordon Cole, Murray Crawford, Arthur, Lieut., M. C. (2), (Wounded) Crawford, Claire Crawford, Howard Crawford, Sinclair Crawford, Garfield Copeland, Willard Cheyne, Wm., Lieut. Chester, Fred (Killed in action) Cornell, Archie, Lieut. (Killed in action) Crockard, Alex.

Doherty, Russell (Am. Army)

Dawson, Frank, Lieut.

Darbyshire, James Duncan, Malcolm Dyble, Richard Donohue, Raymond Ellis, Albert Ellis, Edward Elliott, James (Wounded) Elliott, Arthur Fleming, Hugh (Wounded) Fitzgibbon, Cecil Fawcett, Lyle Garvey, Geoffrey, Lieut. (Wounded) Gardiner, Robert (Wounded) Geary, G. R., Major Geddes, Keith, Lieut. (Wounded) Gilchrist, Wm. Gilroy, Eric, Ft.-Lieut. Gray, Goldwin (Wounded) Gray, Ross Gleason, Michael Guertin, Wm. Gorman, Fred Haley, William Haney, Wilfred, Ft.-Officer. Hanna, Neil, Lieut. Harris, Arnold Henderson, Wm. A., Capt. (Obiit) Howard, Edward (Wounded) Hill, Hardy Hepson, Stanford Hucker, Charles Hutchinson, E. Irvine, Walter Jones, L. E., Lieut.-Col. (D. S. O.) O. C. 18th Battalion Johnston, Gilbert

Johnson, Byron Knowles, Neville Knowles, Wm., Capt. Knight, Charles (Killed in action) Kenny, Capt., Dr. R. Y. LeSueur, Lisle, -Capt. Langan, Clare LeBel, Arthur Logie, Douglas Love, Bert Longley, Rex (Am. Army) Lucas, Forde Lucas, Frank Lucas, Gordon Lucas, Robert Lucas, Harvey Lucas, George, Ft.-Lieut. MacAdams , Johnson, Capt. MacGibon, Findlay MacGibbon, Hegler MacGibbon, John MacKenzie, James (D. C. M.) MacKenzie, Malcolm MacKenzie, Stuart, Capt., Dr. MacKenzie, Kenneth, Major MacKenzie, Malcolm, Capt. MacGregor, Howard MacCormack, Lorne, Lieut. (Wounded) MacDonald, Douglas MacDonald, William MacDonald, John, A. MacGowan, Gordon MacLean, Athol, Lieut. (Killed in action) MacLean, Donald MacLean, Cedric, Lieut. MacNaughton, Russel Mavity, John, Ft. Lieut. Mavity, Boyce Marshall, George (Wounded) Marriott, Reg. Mellon, Russel (Wounded)

Miller, James (Wounded)

Morrison, Lancelot (Wound-Morrison, John Morris, Walter Murray, Gordon Nicholson, Neilson, Lieut. Nisbet, Harry Nethercotte, J. P. S., Lieut. Owens, Earl Palmer, Walter Paul, Charles (M. S. M.) Potter, A. Phillipps, Fred S. Phippen, Carlyle Poussette, Harry, Capt. Pardee, Harry, Capt. Proctor, Douglas Proctor, Gordon Rose, Alex. Rose, Hugh Randolph, Cater Randolph, John Randolph, Ralph Rigsby, Walter Robinson, John Sands, George Samis, Norman Selman, John Sinclair, Howard Sinclair, Raymond Smith, Miles Smith, Lyle Smith, Grant Smith, Frank, Ft.-Lieut. Storey, Gordon Storey, William Stokes, Gordon Simpson, Russell Struthers, John Taylor, Harry Thompson, D. N. Thompson, Robert, Major (Chaplain) (M. C.) Towers, Ewart, Capt. (Died of wounds)

Towers, Logan, Capt., Dr.
Towers, Robert, Lieut.-Col,
O. C. 70th Battalion
Tremells, Lyle
Tesky, Alvin
Wade, Roger
Wallace, Andrew

Wanless, Graham
Weir, Charles, Lieut.
(Wounded)
White, Daniel
Wood, Gordon, Capt.
Wilson, David, Lieut.
Yeates, Wilbert

